CIVIL WAR II: ULYSSES

MARVEL INFINITE COMICS

006

OUTSIDE THE TOWER OF WISDOM.

ULYSSES CAIN.

YOU CAME TO ME TO UNDERSTAND AND CONTROL YOUR *GIFT--*

--THE GIFT OF *SEEING THE FUTURE.*

BUT NOW... YOUR FUTURE IS ALL *AROUND* YOU.

LIKE THE BARS OF A *CELL*. COLD AND HARD AND *INESCAPABLE*.

THIS MOMENT WAS *ALWAYS* HERE, BOY. ALWAYS WAITING...

...JUST OUT OF SIGHT.

CIVIL WAR II: ULYSSES

TOWER OF WISDOM, PART VI

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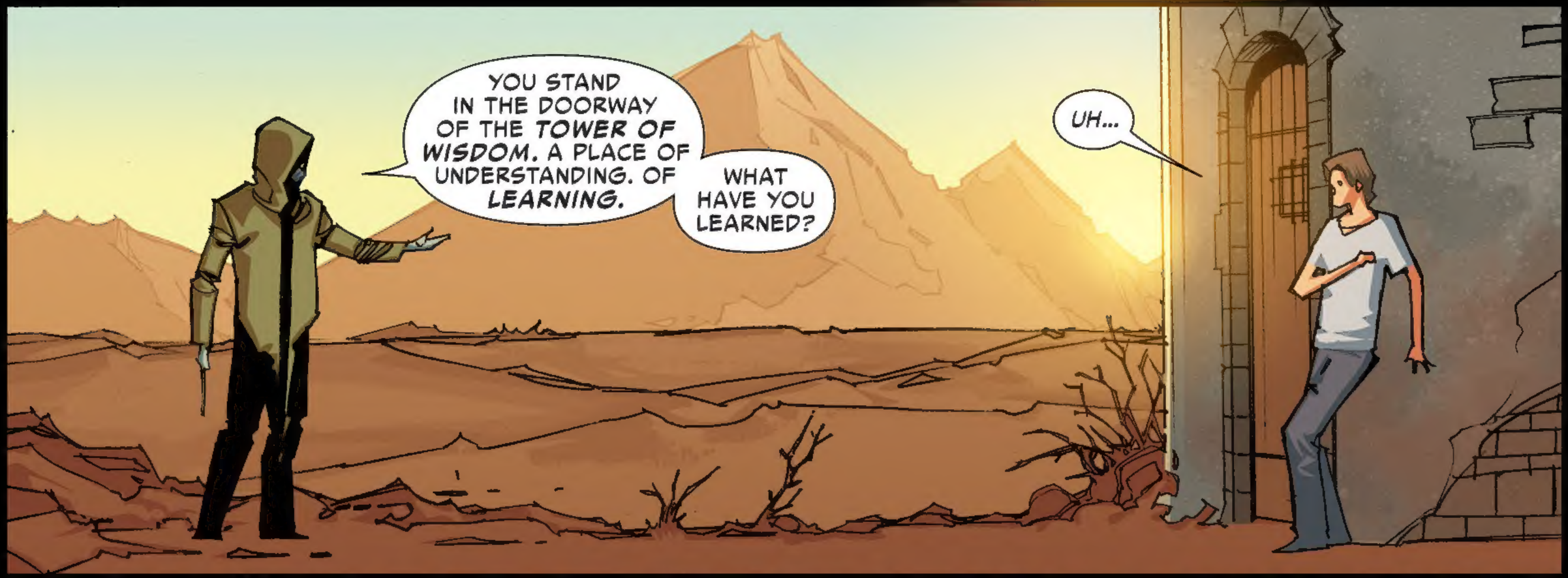
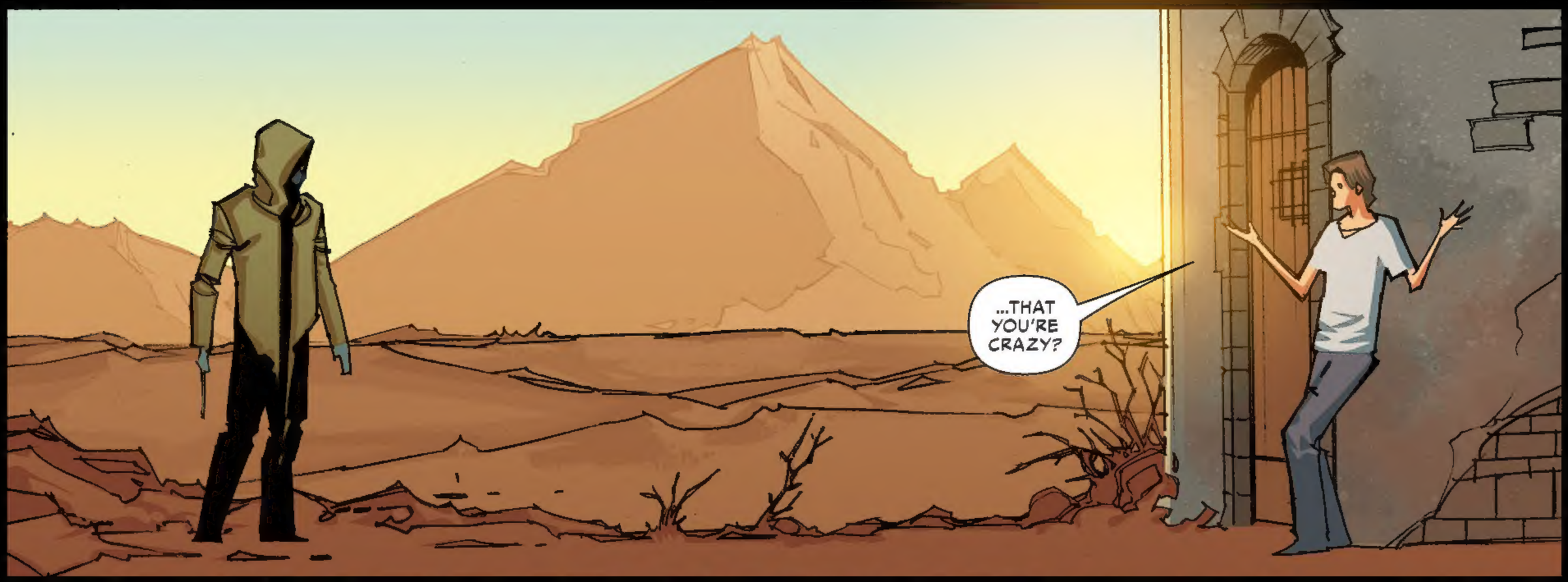
SO WHAT HAVE YOU *LEARNED?*


YOU STAND IN THE DOORWAY OF THE TOWER OF WISDOM. A PLACE OF UNDERSTANDING. OF LEARNING.
WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED?
UH...


...THAT YOU'RE CRAZY?

A LAZY ANSWER, BOY. SPOKEN WITHOUT THOUGHT.
NOT GOOD ENOUGH.

I--
WE DON'T HAVE *TIME* FOR THIS, KARNAK.

PEOPLE ARE GOING TO *DIE*, UNLESS YOU LET ME--UNLESS--

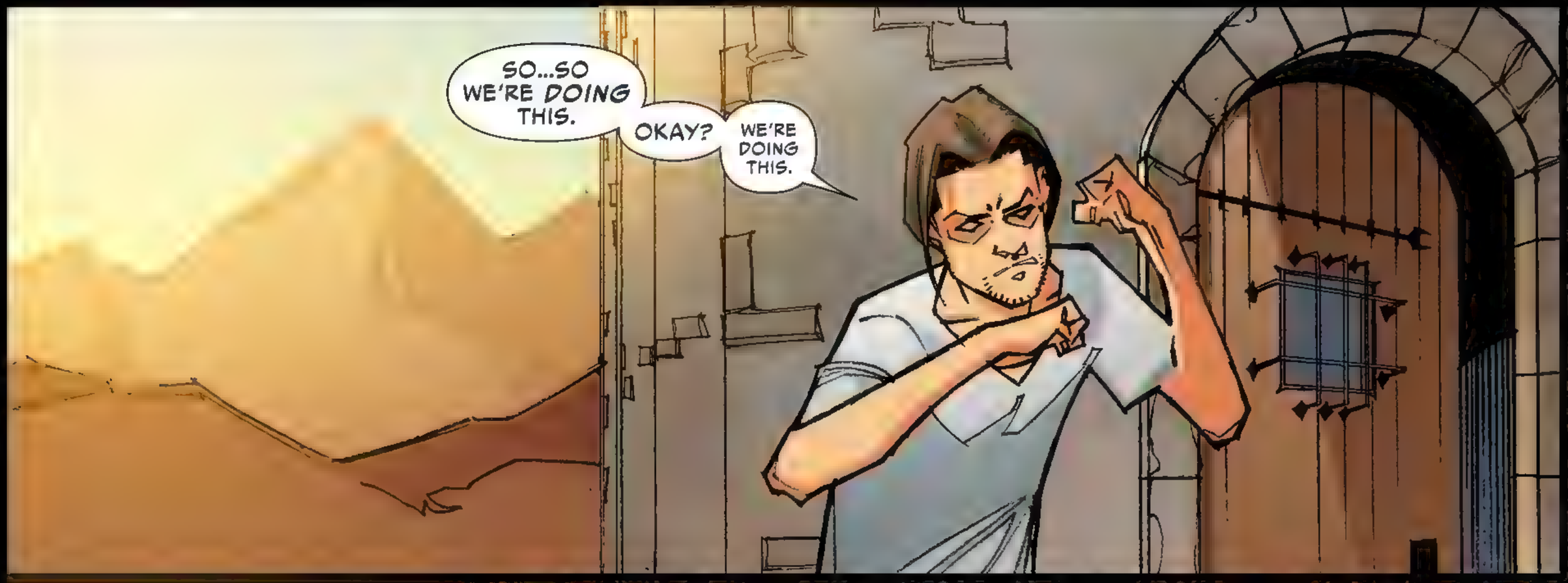
U-UNLESS I CAN GET *PAST* YOU--S-SO I--
I--

BUT YOU KNOW MY GIFT. THE GIFT I BUILT.
I SEE THE FLAWS IN ALL THINGS.
IN YOU.

YOU'RE *AFRAID* OF ME--

DUDE! I-I'M *TERRIFIED OF YOU!*

BUT IF THAT *CRASH* I SAW IN OREGON *HAPPENS*, PEOPLE ARE *GOING TO DIE!*


SO...SO WE'RE DOING THIS.
OKAY?
WE'RE DOING THIS.

...
HNN.

W-WHY ARE YOU SMILING? WHAT IS IT?
WHAT'S FUNNY?

MANY THINGS.

I'VE ALREADY *BEEN* TO OREGON. TO THE *STARK MONORAIL.* TO YOUR *CRASH.*

AND NOW...I AM *BACK.*

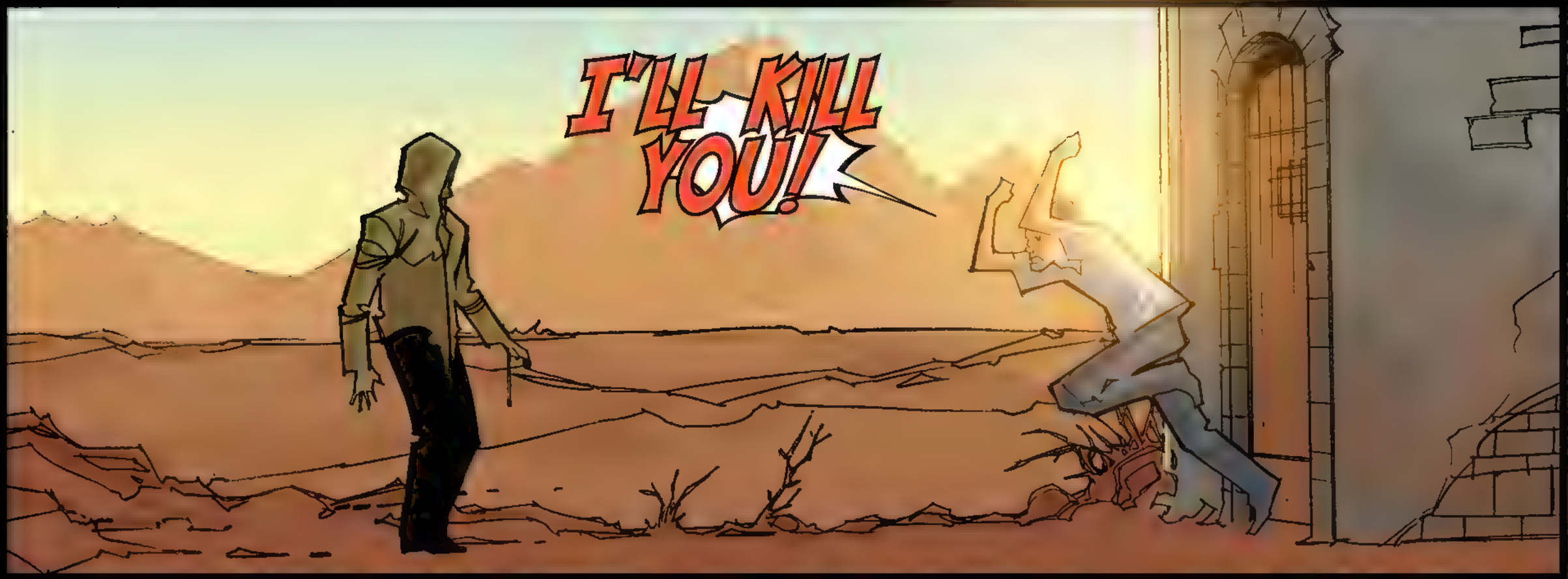
AND EVERYTHING HAS ALREADY *HAPPENED.*

YOU'RE TOO LATE.

Y-YOU...

YOU SON OF A--

I'LL KILL YOU!


I'LL KILL YOU!

NO.

WHOKK
KILL YOU!

NOT LIKE THAT.
OWW! GOD!
I THINK I BROKE MY HAND--

VERY NEARLY.
YOU'VE CLEARLY NEVER THROWN A *PUNCH* BEFORE.
SHUT *UP*--

SOMETHING *ELSE* TO LEARN...

I SAID *SHUT UP!*

YOU--YOU'RE TELLING ME YOU WENT ALL THE WAY TO *OREGON* JUST TO WATCH THEM *DIE?*

NO.

I'M SAYING I HAVE *BEEN* TO OREGON, AND NOW I AM *BACK*, AND IT TOOK YOU ALL THAT TIME TO *ESCAPE*.

I'M SAYING YOU'RE *NOT GOOD ENOUGH*.

THINK.
NOTICE THE DETAILS. LOOK FOR THE FLAWS.

WHAT AM I NOT SAYING?

HEY!

HEY!

CAN YOU *GET OFF THE TRACK*, PLEASE? THE *COPS* ARE ON THEIR WAY--

ONE MOMENT.

THE STARK NEEDLE MONORAIL.

FORTY-FIVE MINUTES AGO.

MY S.H.I.E.L.D. CREDENTIALS.

OH, SO YOU'RE ONE OF THE *GOOD* CRAZY PEOPLE. NICE TO *KNOW.*

LISTEN, I CAN'T *START* THIS TRAIN UNTIL YOU--

HEY!

CRUNCH

THERE.

FOLKS, YOU NEED TO, UH, PLEASE MOVE *BACK* ONTO THE *PLATFORM.*

BECAUSE... BECAUSE *HOBO-MAN* HERE JUST *BROKE THE TRAIN.*

I AM *KARNAK.*

STA
NEED
THE ENGINEERING MA

THAT'S CORRECT.

HE'S *MAGISTER* KARNAK...

...AND *MAGISTER* KARNAK NEEDS TO *EXPLAIN* HIMSELF.

NOW.

I WANTED TO SEE IF YOUR VISION WOULD *HAPPEN* WHETHER OR NOT I ATTEMPTED TO *PREVENT* IT.

THE WEAK SECTION OF THE TRACK WILL BE *REPLACED*. THE TRAIN MUST *ALSO* BE REPAIRED.

THE REPAIRS WILL TAKE *MONTHS*.

I WANTED TO SEE IF YOUR VISION WOULD *HAPPEN* WHETHER OR NOT I ATTEMPTED TO *PREVENT* IT.

THE WEAK SECTION OF THE TRACK WILL BE *REPLACED*. THE TRAIN MUST *ALSO* BE REPAIRED.

THE REPAIRS WILL TAKE *MONTHS*.

SO YOUR VISION WILL *NOT* HAPPEN, AFTER ALL.

NO ONE WILL DIE.

IN *THAT* WAY.

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WHAT...?

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NO ONE WILL DIE.

IN *THAT* WAY.

WHAT THE ACTUAL HELL IS *WRONG WITH YOU?*

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THE WEAK SECTION OF THE TRACK WILL BE *REPLACED*. THE TRAIN MUST *ALSO* BE REPAIRED.

THE REPAIRS WILL TAKE *MONTHS*.

YOU COULD HAVE JUST--JUST *SAID* SOMETHING! ANYTHING!

INSTEAD YOU LEFT ME LOCKED UP IN A DAMN *CELL*--YOU *TRAUMATIZED* ME--

YES.

WHAT THE ACTUAL HELL IS *WRONG WITH* YOU?

AND WHAT HAVE YOU *LEARNED?*

YOU COULD HAVE JUST--JUST *SAID* SOMETHING! ANYTHING!

INSTEAD YOU LEFT ME LOCKED UP IN A DAMN *CELL*--YOU *TRAUMATIZED* ME--

YES.

WHAT THE ACTUAL HELL IS *WRONG WITH YOU?*

THAT YOU'RE NOT JUST CRAZY.

YOU'RE ALSO A *GIANT* %#&#.

COME.

SIT.

YOU'RE AFRAID. I MADE YOU AFRAID. THAT WAS INTENDED.
BUT NO HARM WILL COME TO YOU NOW.
SIT DOWN.

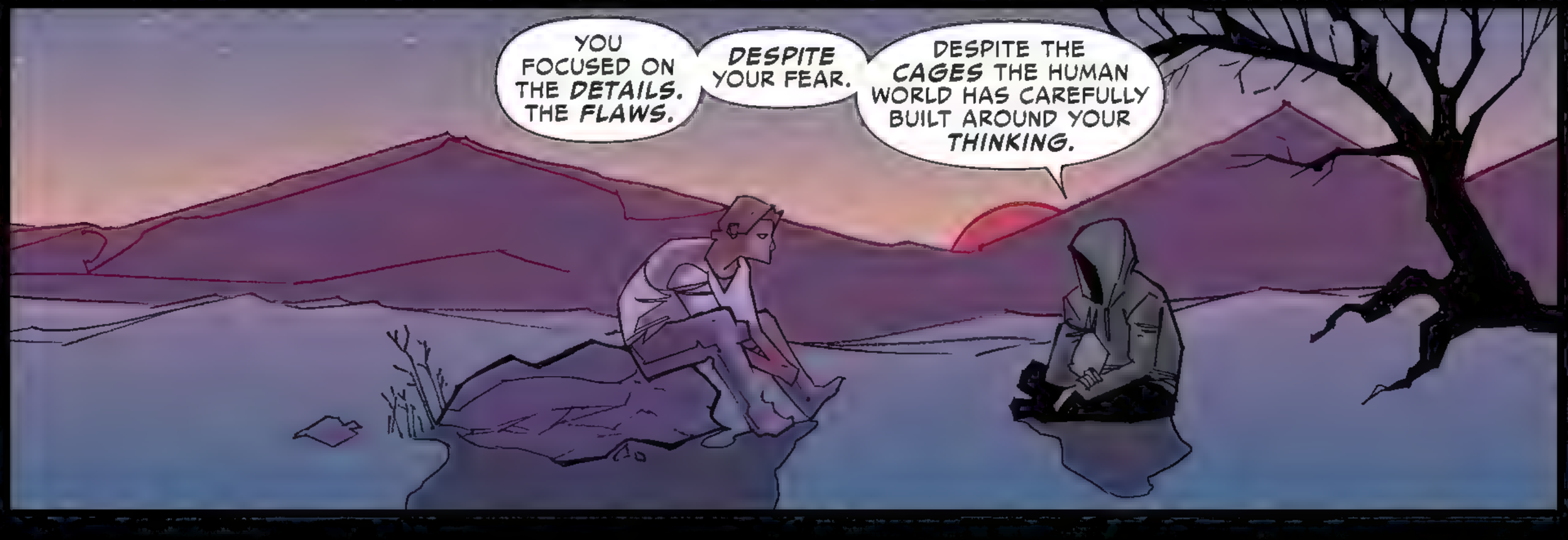
...INTENDED?
YOU WERE IN A SITUATION YOU HAD NO CONTROL OVER.
YOU WERE VERY AFRAID.

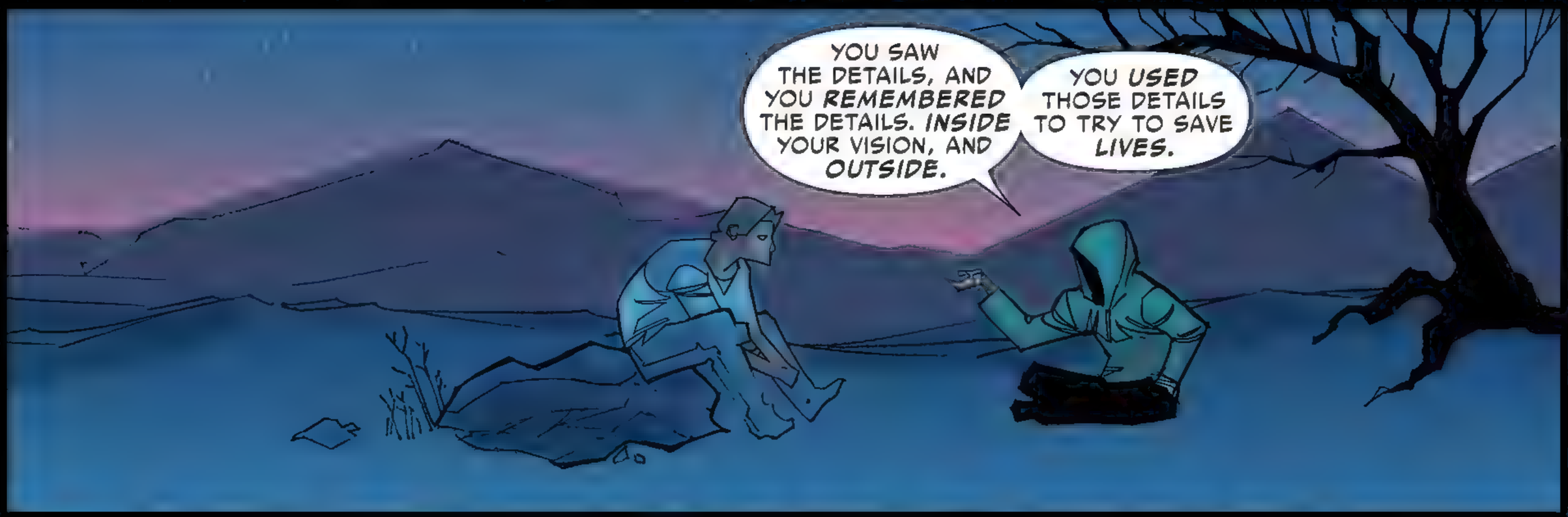
WHAT DID YOU *LEARN?* THIS IS *IMPORTANT,* BOY.
WHAT DID YOU *DO?*

I...AFTER I CALLED FOR *HELP*, I NOTICED THE *BARS* WERE WEAK, AND...

YOU *NOTICED*. YOU *LOOKED*.

YOU *THOUGHT*.


YOU FOCUSED ON THE DETAILS. THE FLAWS.
DESPITE YOUR FEAR.
DESPITE THE CAGES THE HUMAN WORLD HAS CAREFULLY BUILT AROUND YOUR THINKING.


YOU SAW THE DETAILS, AND YOU *REMEMBERED* THE DETAILS. *INSIDE* YOUR VISION, AND *OUTSIDE*.
YOU *USED* THOSE DETAILS TO TRY TO SAVE *LIVES*.

YOU SAID LIVES DIDN'T MATTER--
THEY DON'T. YOU THINK THEY DO.
SO DOES MY QUEEN.
AND THE MAGISTER DOES NOT MAKE POLICY.

HOW...
...HOW LONG HAVE WE BEEN SITTING HERE?
NOT QUITE LONG ENOUGH.
SO WE WILL SIT. AND WE WILL *WAIT*. AND WHEN IT IS *READY*...

...THE FUTURE WILL MAKE ITSELF *KNOWN.*

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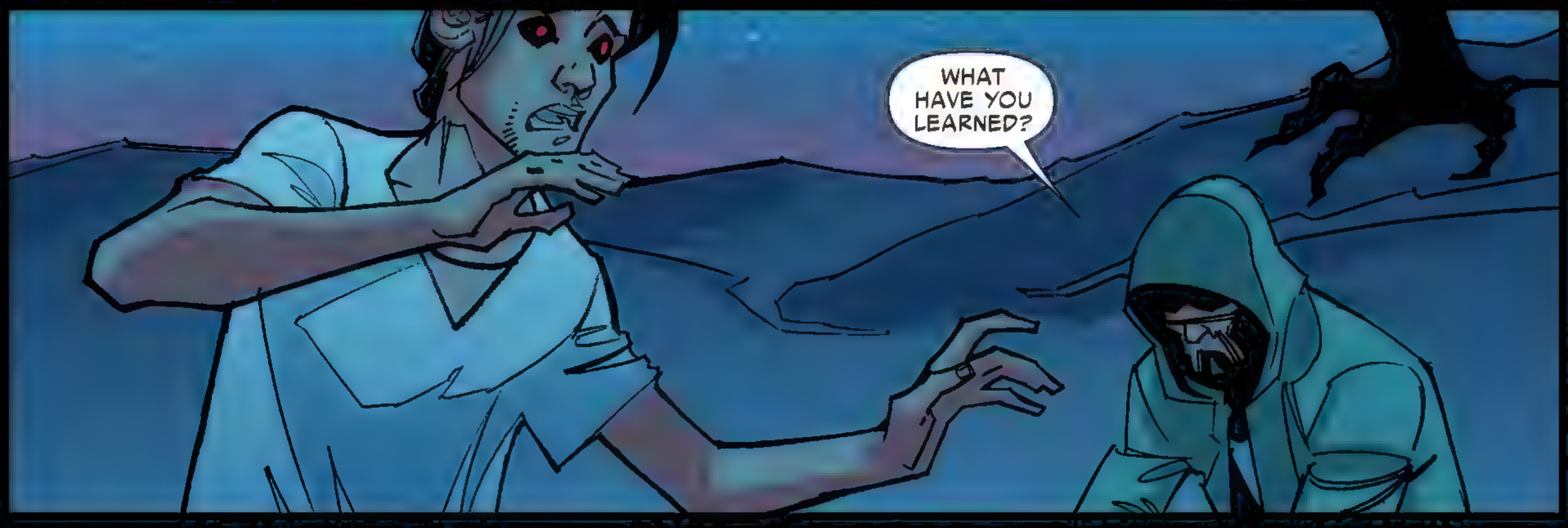
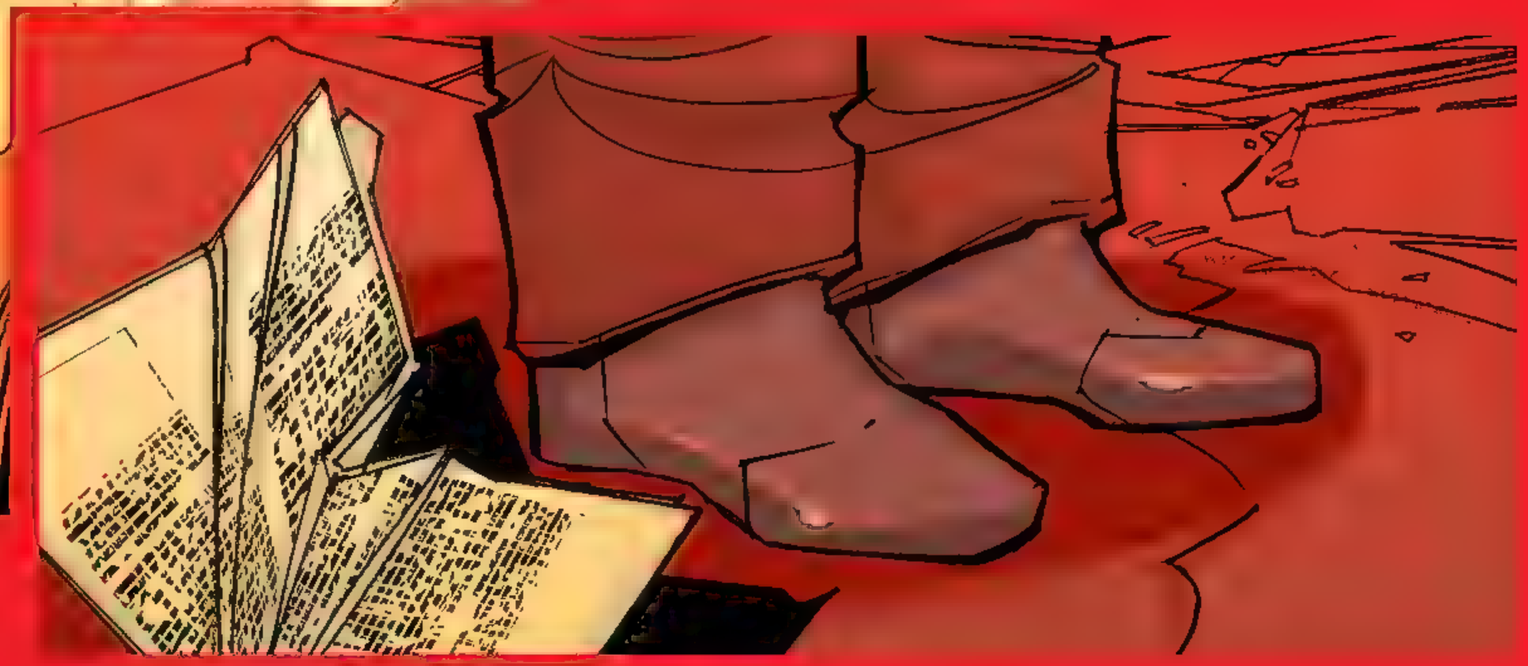
OH, GOD.

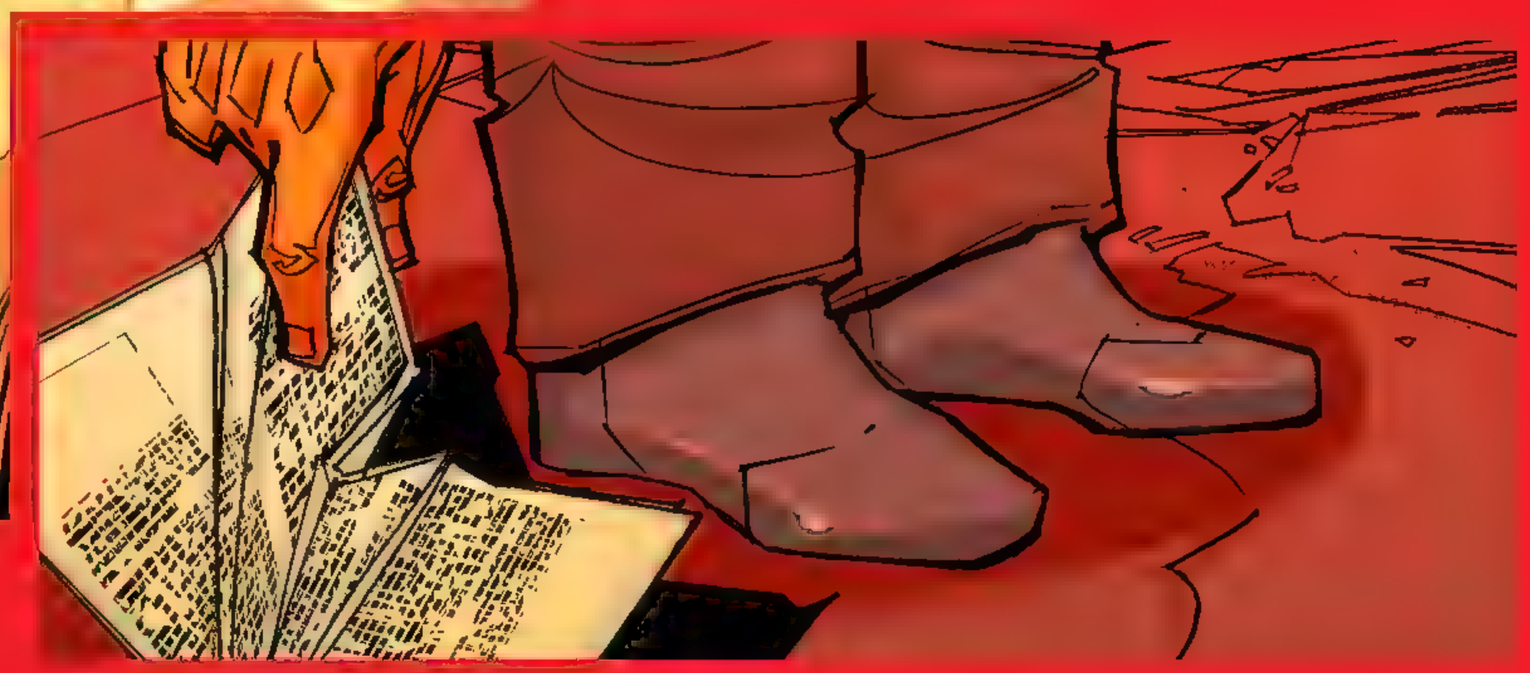
KARNAK?
KARNAK, I'M--I'M HAVING A VISION--
KARNAK, HELP ME--


WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED?

WHAT HAVE I LEARNED?
DETAILS.
GET IT TOGETHER.

LOOK FOR THE DETAILS...



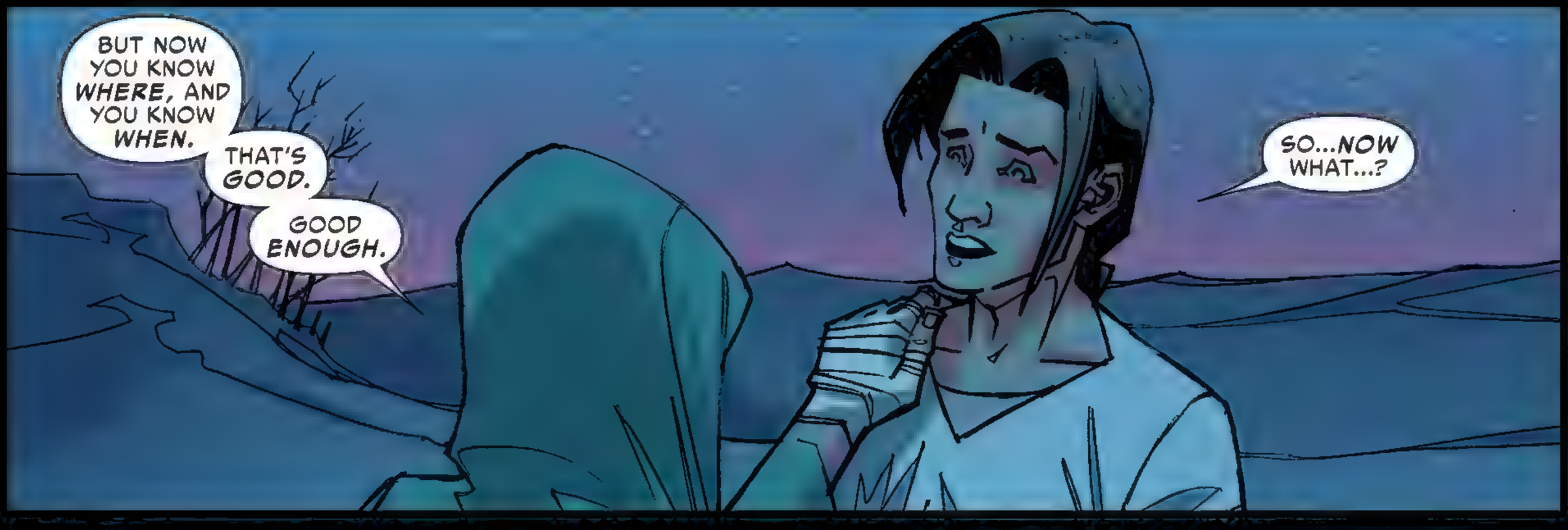


DETAILS.
DAILY

WELL?

I, UH, FOUND A NEWSPAPER. LOOKED LIKE A LOCAL PAPER-- NEW YORK.

AND I SAW THE DATE. WE'VE GOT ABOUT FOUR DAYS BEFORE...I DON'T KNOW. WHATEVER IT IS, IT'S BAD...

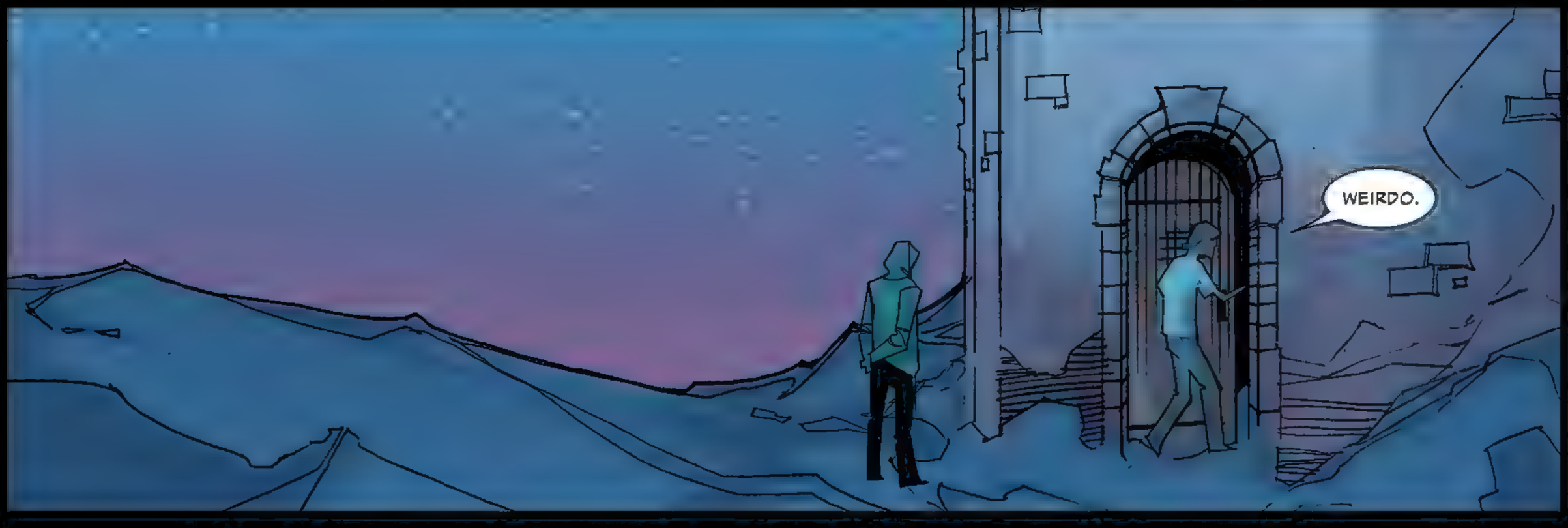

BUT NOW YOU KNOW WHERE, AND YOU KNOW WHEN.
THAT'S GOOD.
GOOD ENOUGH.
SO...NOW WHAT...?

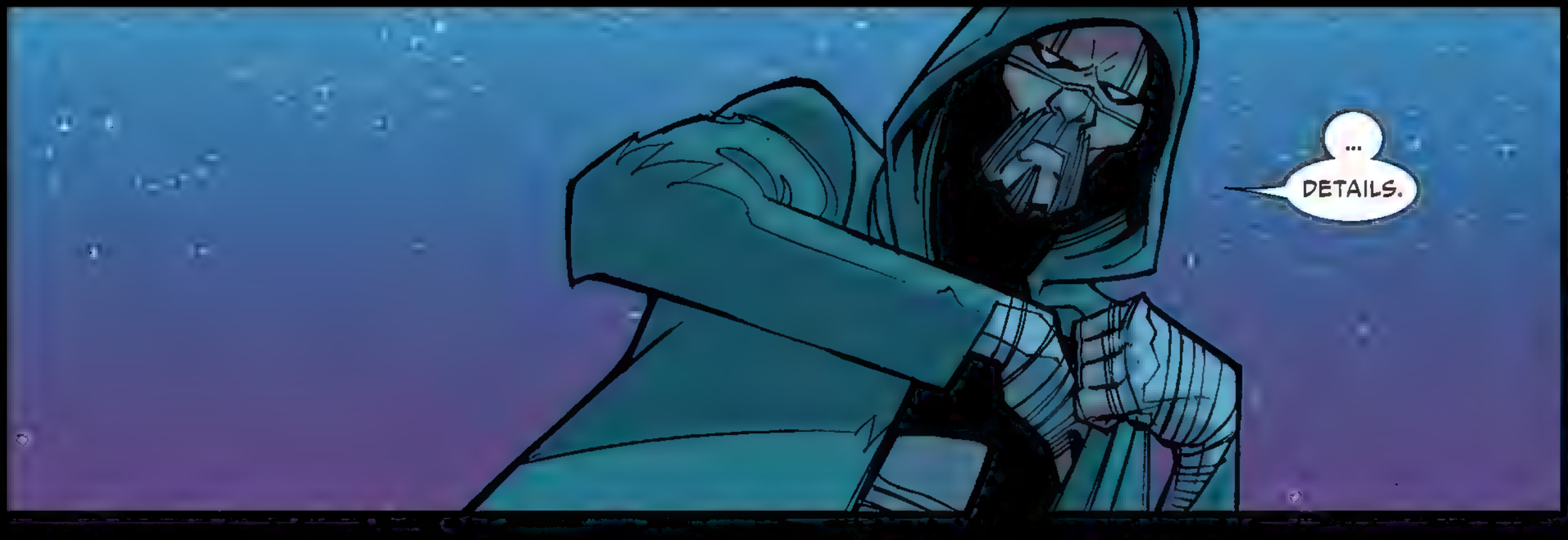
TOMORROW, WE WILL LEARN *MORE.*

TONIGHT-- FIND *TONGUE.* *APOLOGIZE* FOR YOUR EARLIER BEHAVIOR. THEN *EAT* SOMETHING AND GET A NIGHT'S *REST.*

SLEEP IN THE *MEDICAL WING.* IT HAS *BEDS.*

AND YOUR WELL-BEING IS IMPORTANT.
O...KAY?


WEIRDO.


...
DETAILS.

PAIN STREET
I'VE EXPLAINED THINGS TO THE HUMAN *AUTHORITIES*, KARNAK.
YOU *COULD* HAVE CONSULTED THE *REST* OF US--

AND IF I'D *FAILED* TO PREVENT THE DISASTER, MY QUEEN? OR *CAUSED* IT?

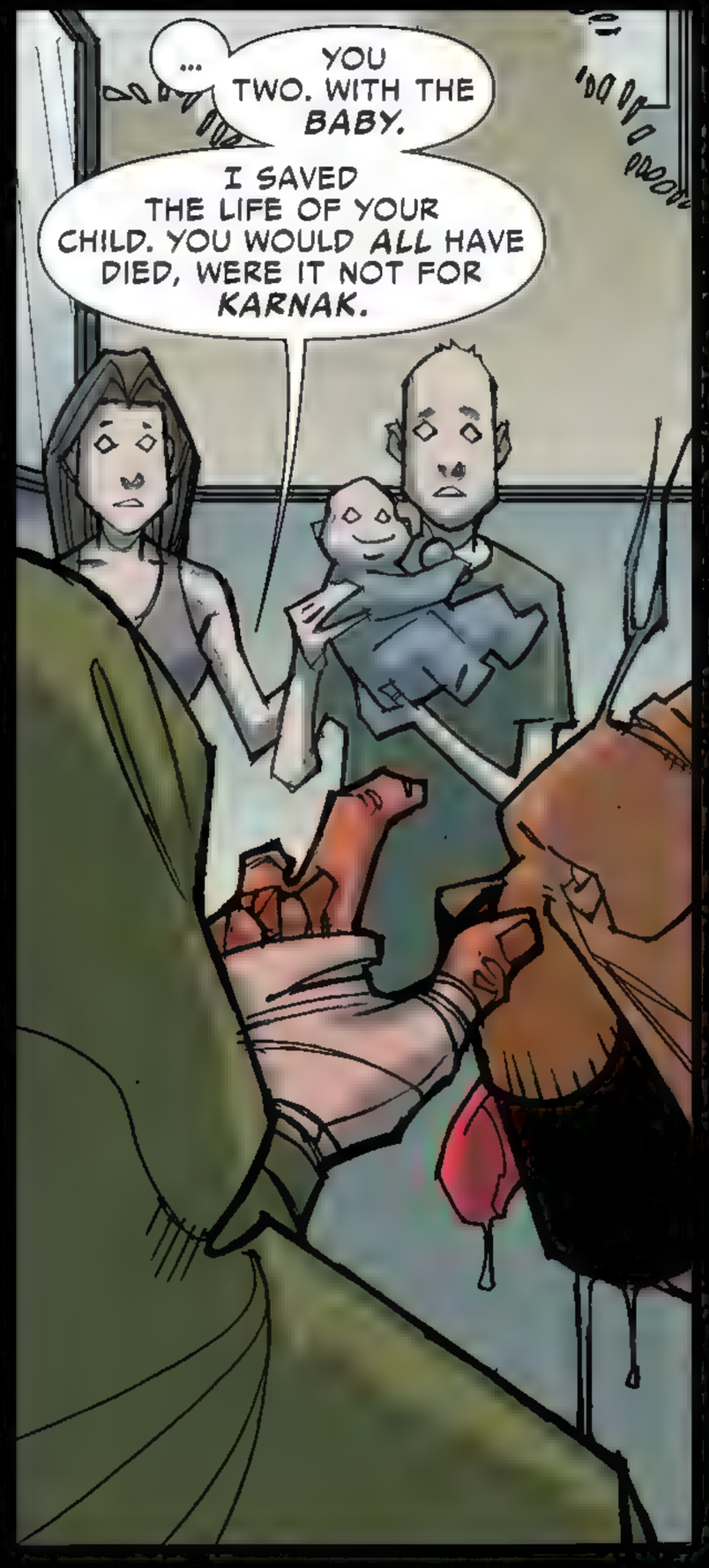
BETTER TO HAVE *DENIABILITY.* MAD OLD KARNAK, ACTING *ALONE.*

YES?

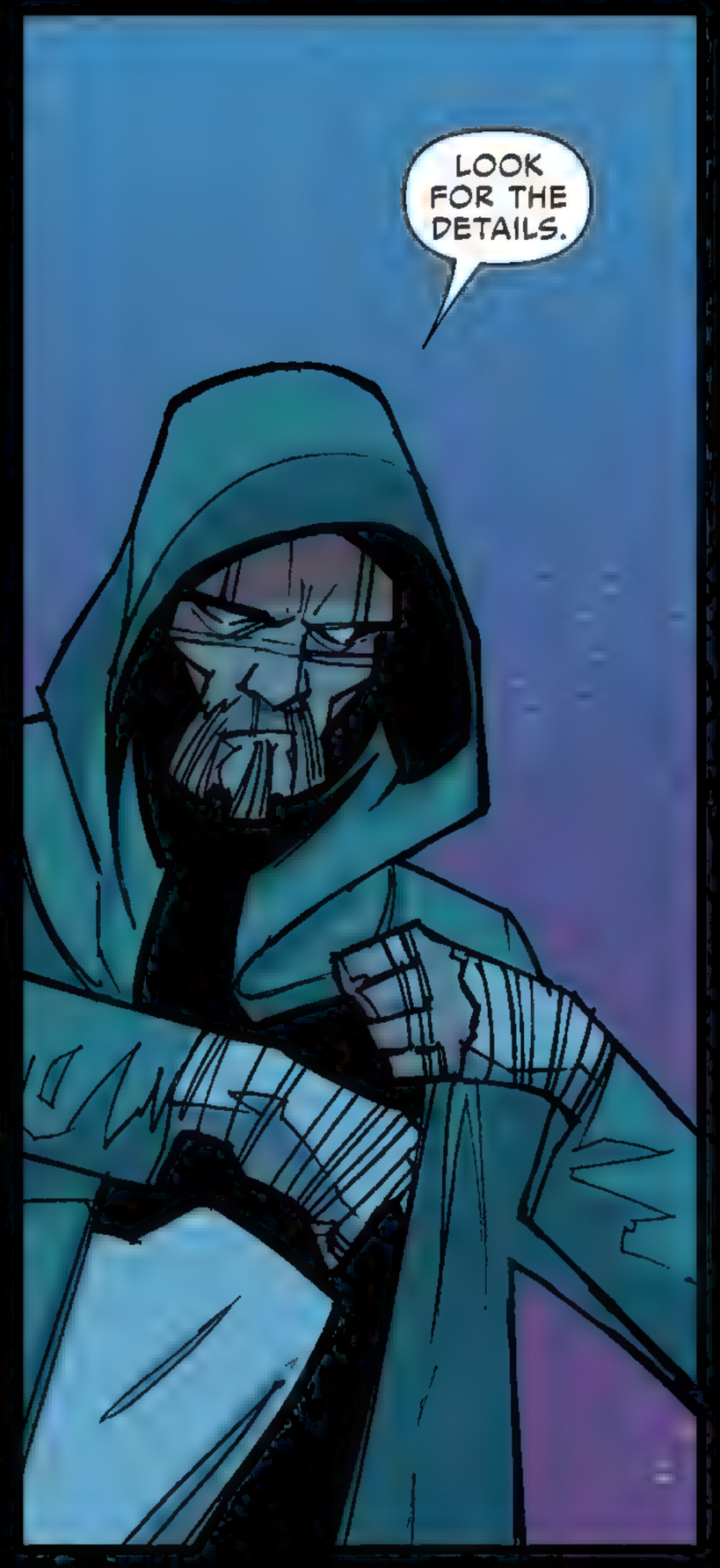
LOCKJAW WILL RETURN YOU TO THE TOWER WHEN YOU'RE *READY.*

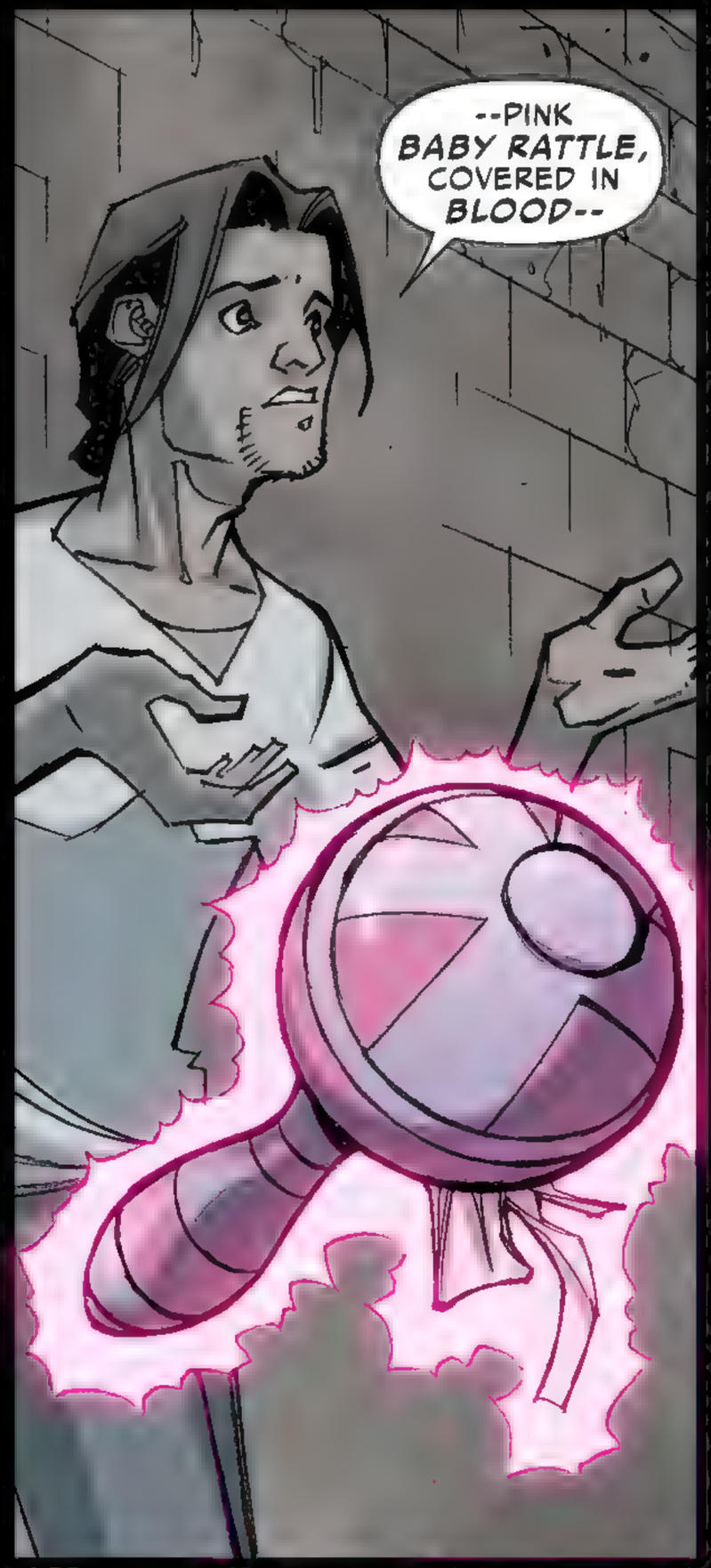
DON'T MAKE A *HABIT* OF THIS, MAGISTER.

MY QUEEN.


...
YOU TWO. WITH THE BABY.
I SAVED THE LIFE OF YOUR CHILD. YOU WOULD ALL HAVE DIED, WERE IT NOT FOR KARNAK.

I REQUIRE PAYMENT.


LOOK FOR THE DETAILS.


--PINK
BABY RATTLE,
COVERED IN
BLOOD--

LOOK FOR THE *FLAWS.*
TOMORROW.

TOMORROW, WE WILL LEARN MORE, ULYSSES CAIN.
ALL OF US...

THE END.

SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN... THIS MONSTER!"